

determining the presence of, or absence of, or amount of expression of the DESC1 gene in a tissue sample obtained from the prostate of the subject, wherein the diagnosis of prostate carcinoma is based on the presence, absence, or amount of expression of the DESC 1 gene in the sample.

17. (New) The method of claim 16 wherein the level of DESC 1 gene expression is determined using a nucleic acid probe which hybridizes to a transcript of the DESC 1 gene.

18. (New) The method of claim 16 wherein the level of expression of the DESC 1 gene is determined using a polymerase chain reaction and primers which are complementary to specific regions of the DESC 1 gene.

19. (New) The method of claim 16 wherein the level of expression of the DESC 1 gene is determined by assaying for the presence, or absence, or a change in the levels of the protein encoded by the DESC 1 gene in the sample.

20. (New) The method of claim 19 wherein an antibody which is immunospecific for the protein encoded by the DESC 1 gene is employed in the assay.

21. An isolated polynucleotide which encodes amino acids 191 through 422 of the amino acid sequence shown in Figures 1A or 1B.

22. A DESC 1 polypeptide which comprises a sequence which is 95% identical to the sequence extending from and including amino acid 191 through amino acid 422 of the amino acid sequence shown in Figures 1A or 1B.

REMARKS

By the present amendment, the specification is amended to claim priority from related international and provisional applications. By the present amendment, original claims 5 and 9 are amended to correct typographical errors. By the present amendment, new claims 10-22 are added to the application. Support for new claims 10-22 is found in paragraph 1 of the Summary of the Invention. Support for new claims 10-20 is also found in paragraph 1 of the Detailed Description of the Invention, pages 10-11 and 13, and Examples 1, 2, 3, and 5. Support for new claims 21 and 22 is found in the first paragraph on page 7. Applicant also submits herewith an amended specification which was sent to the ISA/USA on February 22, 2000. The amended